

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A light emitting diode comprising:

a pair of electrodes; and

5 a light emitting layer interposed between the pair of electrodes,

wherein

the light emitting layer has a light emitting region containing a luminescent material and having a higher refractive index than air and a low refractive region having
10 a lower refractive index than the light emitting region, and

at least part of an interface between the light emitting region and the low refractive region is unparallel to a plane of the electrodes.

15 2. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, wherein at least part of an interface between the light emitting region and the low refractive region is perpendicular to a plane of the electrodes.

20 3. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, wherein the low refractive region has air as a medium.

4. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, which is an organic light emitting diode wherein the light emitting
25 region is formed of an organic compound.

5. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of a refractive index of the low refractive region to a refractive index of the light emitting region is 0.85 or smaller to 1.

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6. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of a refractive index of the low refractive region to a refractive index of the light emitting region is 0.7 or smaller to 1.

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7. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting layer has a thickness of 10 to 200 nm.

8. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, wherein

15 the light emitting layer has a thickness of 20 to 80 nm.

9. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, further comprising a hole transporting layer containing a hole transporting material.

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10. The light emitting diode according to claim 1, further comprising an electron transporting layer containing an electron transporting material.

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